

School Laws and Legislation

Case Summaries 2005



Independence-National Education Assn. v. Independence School District

- District established “collaborative teams” to represent employees
- Court acknowledged that District team process failed to include the exclusive bargaining representative for employee groups
- Court refused to reverse *Clouse* and *Sumpter*



Jackson v. Birmingham Board of Education

- Jackson accused School District of discriminating under Title IX
- Jackson received negative work evaluations and removed as girls' basketball coach
- Supreme Court found for Jackson stating that without protection from retaliation discrimination would go unreported and unremedied



Sherwood Nat'l Education Assn. v. Sherwood School District

- SNEA challenged “commitment fees” given to certain teachers arguing that these fees exceeded the scope of the district’s authority under the Teacher Tenure Act
- MO Court of Appeals, Western District found commitment fees to be invalid
- The extra compensation related to teaching students, not extra duty or additional non-teaching assignments



Jennings v. Wentzville R-IV School District

- Parents filed a § 1983 claim alleging daughters' removal from cheerleading squad for drinking violated their constitutional rights
- Stemmed, in part, from late night meeting called by sponsor
- Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals dismissed the charges



Wigg v. Sioux Fall School District

- Wigg alleged that District violated her free speech rights by disallowing her after school participation in the Good News Club
- Speech occurred after school, outside scope of employment
- The Court of Appeals affirmed decision to allow Wigg to participate in religious club activities at district schools



Doe v. Little Rock School District

- Doe alleged the District violated Fourth Amendment rights by conducting random, suspicionless search at school
- Among other things the search was generalized and highly intrusive
- “Fruits of search” were disclosed to law enforcement
- 8th Circuit concluded the search was unreasonable

